

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1016

INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT

USUN NEW YORK 462

S E C R E T MADRID 0870

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, SP, MO

SUBJ: MOROCCAN CLAIM TO CEUTA AND MELILLA

REF: STATE 027758, EMBTEL MADRID 825

1. WE BELIEVE ANALYSIS AND POSITION IN REFTEL IS EXACTLY CORRECT. SPANISH REACTION TO MOROCCAN CLAIM IN BOTH OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE CIRCLES HAS BEEN INDIGNANT. TWO SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD CHARGE SPAIN IS FULLY UNITED ON THIS ISSUE. THEY SAID SPAIN IS DETERMINED TO FIND AN HONORABLE WAY TO GET OUT OF THE SAHARA, BUT WILL NOT BE PUSHED, AND CEUTA AND MELILLA ARE ENTIRELY DIFFERENT. THERE IS NO QUESTION IN OUR MIND BUT THAT THE CEUTA AND MELILLA ISSUE, ADDED TO EXTREME SPANISH SENSITIVITY OVER OUR ARMS PROGRAM FOR MOROCCO, SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLICATE OUR POSITION WITH SPAIN AT DELICATE TIME IN NEGOTIATIONS.

2. IT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL IF WE COULD BE AUTHORIZED TO INFORM SPANISH AUTHORITIES OF U.S. POSITION ON CEUTA AND MELILLA PRIOR TO BEGINNING OF THIS ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS, THAT IS TODAY OR TOMORROW.
EATON

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER MS. ELTZ, S/S-O, 2/7/75.

SECRET

NNN

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